

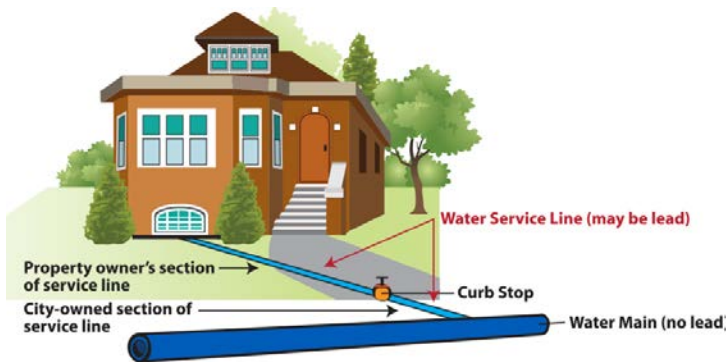
Lead Service Line Replacement Program

The City of Milwaukee has begun the systematic replacement of lead service lines (LSL) with copper, and for 2017, requires replacing lead services lines if a LSL is found to be leaking or is damaged during planned construction.

- The Milwaukee Water Works immediately notifies a property owner if this is required.
- The property owner is eligible for special assessment financing to pay to replace their section of lead service line.
- Properties with 1-4 dwelling units also are eligible for a city cost-share.

No action is required of property owners with a LSL that is not leaking or damaged. When a service line is replaced, City of Milwaukee ordinance requires the entire line be replaced with copper. If you choose to replace your section of the lead service line, please obtain an estimate from a licensed plumber and notify MWW Customer Service, (414) 286-2830. The utility will then replace its section of the lead service line.

The city program does not include retroactive payment to property owners for lead service lines replaced before 2017.



The city owns the section of the service line from the water main to the curb stop at the property line. The property owner owns the section from the curb stop to the water meter.

Search our records to see if a property has a lead service line at milwaukee.gov/water.

Special assessment financing is available to all properties to help pay LSL replacement costs if there is a leak or failure in the LSL, or the utility-owned section of the LSL is to be replaced on an emergency or planned basis.

- The property owner must choose to have the city contractor replace their privately-owned section of the LSL. The MWW will hire the contractor and pay the costs upfront.
- The owner may repay the city for the cost to replace their privately-owned section in total or in payments over 10 years through a special assessment on the property tax bill. Interest is charged on any unpaid balance.

The city cost-share is available for properties with 1-4 dwelling units.

- The property owner must choose to have the city contractor replace their privately-owned section of the LSL. The MWW will hire the contractor and pay the costs upfront.
- The owner pays one-third of the average current cost to replace a privately-owned section of the LSL or \$1600, whichever is less.

It is possible sources of lead will remain in internal plumbing. You may want to hire a licensed plumber to replace lead pipes, lead solder on copper or galvanized plumbing, galvanized steel, and fixtures, like a kitchen faucet.

Special Assessment Procedure for All Properties

On completion of the project by the city's contractor, the Department of Public Works (DPW) Special Assessment Office will mail the property owner a letter detailing the owner's share of the cost which will be made as a special assessment to the property. In October, the DPW Special Assessment Office will mail a bill providing payment options:

- Pay the entire amount without interest by paying the City Treasurer within 45 days of the bill date.
- If the bill is not paid in full within 45 days of the bill date, the amount will be placed on the tax roll and interest will be charged on the unpaid principle.

The interest rate, determined each July, will be fixed for the 10-year duration of the installment payments. As of July 2016, the interest rate is 4.5%.

Replacements of utility-owned sections of lead service lines are paid by Milwaukee Water Works funds. This reinvestment in infrastructure is funded through revenue from water rates.

LSL replacements are funded in part with Safe Drinking Water Loan (SDWL) monies. The remainder of the SDWL monies will be used to replace LSLs at 385 licensed child care facilities and eight private schools.